

IXODES HOLDENRIEDI, A NEW SPECIES OF TICK FROM
A POCKET GOPHER IN CALIFORNIA¹

(Acarina, Ixodidae)

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Two partly engorged female ticks from *Thomomys bottae* recently received from Mr. Robert Holdenried of The George Williams Hooper Foundation, University of California, represent a new species of *Ixodes*. The description follows:

Ixodes holdenriedi Cooley, new species

Female

Capitulum. Length from tips of cornua to tip of hypostome, 0.55²; width of basis, 0.36. Cornua very small, short, pointed. Posterior margin mildly concave; edge salient. Porose areas large, widely separated, and near the posterior and lateral margins of the basis. Palpi long, outer margins nearly straight, inner margins convex; widest at about the middle.

In ventral view, basis broad, flattened, broadly rounded behind and salient, its edge mildly reflexed. Auriculae absent. Transverse sutural line distinct. Palpi flattened on their inner sides; article 1 with a small convex plate.

Hypostome. Narrow, tapering, pointed. Dentition 3/3 for about two-fifths the length, then 2/2 to the base; denticles of laterals and files 2 about equal in size. Length about 0.29.

Scutum. Length, 1.02 to 1.05; width, 0.84 to 0.90. Oval, widest a little anterior to the middle. Lateral carinae distinct, extending from the thin, pointed scapulae to the postero-lateral margins, more declivitous on their median (inner) sides. Cervical grooves absent. Punctations distinct, fine, numerous. Hairs absent.

Legs. Legs short. Length of tarsus I, 0.40; metatarsus, 0.27. Length of tarsus IV, 0.42; metatarsus, 0.30.

Coxae. Mildly convex, hairs very few. Coxa I with two spurs subequal in length, internal spur a little narrower; II and III with a distinct external spur, similar to that on I; IV with spurs absent.

Spiracular plate. Short oval with longer axis transverse. Goblets moderate in size and number. Length, 0.20; width, 0.17.

Genital aperture. At about the level of the intervals between coxae II and III.

¹ From the Rocky Mountain Laboratory (Hamilton, Mont.), National Institute of Health.

² All measurements in mm.

This new species, because of size, small mammalian host, and locality, suggests both *I. jellisoni* and *I. peromysci*. From the former, *holdenriedi* is readily distinguished by the presence of lateral carinae, more pointed hypostome, and the short internal spur on coxa I; and from the latter, by the more pointed hypostome, broader basis in ventral view, and complete absence of auriculae.

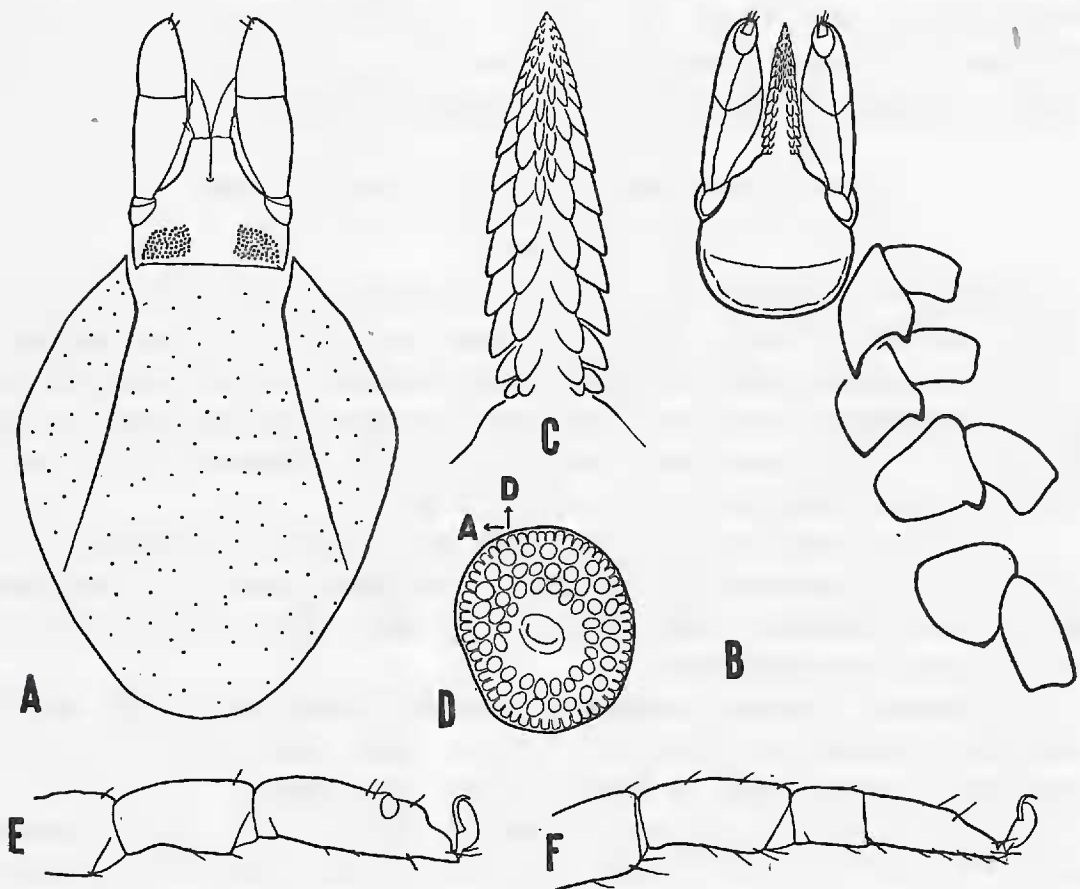


Figure 1. *Ixodes holdenriedi*, n. sp. Female. A. Capitulum and scutum, dorsum. B. Capitulum and coxae, venter. C. Hypostome. D. Spiracular plate. E. Tarsus and metatarsus, leg I. F. Tarsus and metatarsus, leg IV.

Holotype. Female, No. 21751, ex *Thomomys bottae*, FITCH MOUNTAIN, three miles east of HEALDSBURG, SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, March 25, 1945, M. Hobmaier, collector.

Paratype. Female, No. 21751, same data as holotype.

Holotype deposited in the collections of the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, Hamilton, Montana. Paratype deposited in the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.